GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1338
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2003
POTENTIALITY OF COMMUNICATION INDUSTRY
P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed any rules and regulations for the private telecommunication companies with regard to the tariff and rental for landline and mobile phones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the potentiality of communication industry and the merits and demerits of having private telecommunication companies in the business; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) to (d): Under the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act,1997 as amended by TRAI(Amendment) Act, 2000, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been established to regulate the telecommunication services and to protect the interests of service providers as well as consumers of the telecom sector so as to promote and ensure orderly growth of the telecom sector and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Further, TRAI prescribes rates for telecommunication services including different rates for different persons or class of persons for similar telecommunication services while ensuring transparency in exercising its powers. As per T.R.A.I. Act, the Government seeks the recommendations of T.R.A.I. for need and timing for introduction of new service providers.